

1345.4 - SA Stats, Jul 2009

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 28/07/2009

Summary

Contents

CONTENTS



Feature Articles

What are South Australians studying?



Demography

Includes: **Estimated resident population, Components of population change**

South Australia's population increased by 18,500 during the year ended 30 December 2008.



Labour Force

Includes: **Contents, Employed persons, Unemployment, Participation rate**

The trend unemployment rates for South Australian males and females continue to diverge.



Incomes

Includes: **Average weekly earnings**

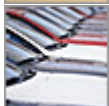
Average weekly full time earnings for South Australian males increased 6.8% in the year to February 2009, while female full time earnings increased 7.6%.



State Accounts

Includes: **State accounts, Household final consumption expenditure (HFCE)**

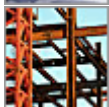
South Australia the only state with increased State Final Demand in the March quarter 2009.



Consumption

Includes: **Retail trade, New motor vehicle sales**

Retail turnover in SA rose 1.8% from April 2009 to May 2009 (seasonally adjusted).



Investment

Includes: **Private new capital expenditure, Mineral and petroleum exploration expenditure**

South Australia's Private New Capital Expenditure decreased by 2.3% to \$1,201m in the March 2009 quarter.



Construction

Includes: **Building approvals, Construction work done**

The value of engineering work done in SA rose 5.7% in the March quarter 2009.



Price Indexes

Includes: **Contents, Consumer price index, Wage price index, House price index**

Adelaide's CPI rose 1.6% in the year ending June quarter 2009.



Housing Finance

Includes: **Housing finance commitments**

South Australian first home buyers borrow, on average, 25% more than non-first home buyers.



International Merchandise Trade

Includes: **Exports and Imports**

The value of South Australia's merchandise exports rose 9.5% in May 2009



Water

Includes: **Rainfall, Reservoir levels**

Total water storage in Adelaide's reservoirs rises to 59% of capacity at the end of June 2009.

In this issue

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE

August 2009
September 2009
October 2009
November 2009
December 2009
January 2010

Release Date

25 August 2009
30 September 2009
27 October 2009
24 November 2009
22 December 2009
27 January 2010

WHAT'S NEW THIS MONTH

Topics which have been updated with new data in this month's issue of **SA Stats** include: Construction; Consumption; Housing Finance; International Merchandise Trade; Labour Force; Price Indexes and Water.

This month's **SA Stats** includes a new article on the fields of study undertaken by South Australian students. The article uses data from a variety of sources including the Survey of Education and Work. Data on fields of current study tell us about the areas in which people will be qualified in the future, and therefore help to assess the potential labour capital of South Australia.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or James Inglis on Adelaide (08) 8237 7405, or email sa.statistics@abs.gov.au.

Feature Articles



FEATURE ARTICLES

Jul 2009	What are South Australians Studying?
Jun 2009	Water Efficiency in South Australia's Vineyards
May 2009	Journey to Work in the City of Adelaide
Apr 2009	Housing Finance - First Home Buyers and Other Borrowers
Feb 2009	Recent Increases in South Australia's Fertility
Jan 2009	South Australian Household Final Consumption Expenditure
2009	
Dec 2008	Energy Consumption in South Australia

Nov 2008	<u>Adelaide's Population Turnover</u>
Oct 2008	<u>Contributors to Adelaide's Price Rises</u>
Sep 2008	<u>Adelaide's Suburbs of Advantage and Disadvantage</u>
Aug 2008	<u>South Australia's Agriculture Industry</u>
July 2008	<u>New Dwelling Approvals in South Australia</u>
May 2008	<u>Literacy of South Australians</u>
April 2008	<u>South Australia's Migrant Population</u>
	<u>South Australia's Ageing Population and the Labour Force</u>
Feb 2008	<u>South Australia's Mining Industry</u>
	<u>Water Supply in South Australia</u>
Jan 2008	<u>Labour Force Underutilisation and the Underemployed in South Australia</u>
	<u>Water Use in Agriculture - A South Australian Perspective</u>
2007	
Nov 2007	<u>Sports Attendance in South Australia</u>
	<u>Recorded Crime - Victims, South Australia, 2006</u>
Oct 2007	<u>Attendance at Cultural Venues and Events by South Australians</u>
Aug 2007	<u>Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities - South Australia, 2006</u>
Jul 2007	<u>South Australia's big picture: Census highlights the changes in South Australian society</u>
	<u>Participation in Sports and Physical Recreation Activities - South Australia</u>
May 2007	<u>Health of South Australians - Body Mass</u>
	<u>Household Use of the Internet in South Australia</u>
Apr 2007	<u>Employment in the Retail Trade Industry in South Australia</u>
	<u>River Murray - South Australia</u>
Mar 2007	<u>Household Waste Management in South Australia</u>
Feb 2007	<u>Births - South Australia</u>
Jan 2007	<u>Gross Domestic Product and Gross State Product</u>
2006	
Dec 2006	<u>Rainfall in South Australia, South Australian Reservoirs, Water Consumption</u>
Nov 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health related actions</u>
Oct 2006	<u>National Regional Profile - New Release, New Features</u>
Sep 2006	<u>Fuel Production and Consumption, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use Change and Forestry</u>
Aug 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health Risk Behaviours</u>
	<u>The South Australian Grape Industry</u>
Jul 2006	<u>Use of IT By Australian Businesses</u>
	<u>Household use of the Internet in South Australia</u>
May 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health Status</u>
Apr 2006	<u>International Trade in Services</u>
	<u>International Students in South Australia</u>
Feb 2006	<u>Labour Force and Other Characteristics of Migrants in South Australia</u>
Jan 2006	<u>Survey of work in selected Culture & Leisure Activities</u>
2005	
Nov 2005	<u>Household Income in South Australia</u>
	<u>Household Expenditure in South Australia</u>
Oct 2005	<u>SA Business and Innovation</u>
	<u>Recent History of Population change in South Australia, 1993-94 to 2003-04</u>
Aug 2005	<u>Average Weekly Earnings</u>
	<u>Transition from School</u>

Demography



DEMOGRAPHY

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

The estimated resident population (ERP) for South Australia was 1,612,000 at 31 December 2008, an increase of about 18,500 persons (1.2%) since 31 December 2007. Nationally, the ERP was 21,644,000 at 31 December 2008, an increase of about 406,100 persons (1.9%) since 31 December 2007.

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, Preliminary data

	Population at end December quarter 2008 '000	Change over previous year '000	Change over previous year %
New South Wales	7 041.4	97.5	1.4
Victoria	5 364.8	102.4	1.9
Queensland	4 349.5	106.7	2.5
South Australia	1 612.0	18.5	1.2
Western Australia	2 204.0	66.0	3.1
Tasmania	500.3	4.9	1.0
Northern Territory	221.7	4.2	2.0
Australian Capital Territory	347.8	5.8	1.7
Australia(a)	21 644.0	406.1	1.9

(a) Includes Other Territories comprising Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.
Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0).

In 2007-08, the South Australian Statistical Division (SD) with the largest percentage increase in ERP was Outer Adelaide (2.0%) followed by Adelaide (1.1%).

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION(a), By Statistical Division, South Australia

	2007		2008	
	Population at 30 June '000	Change over previous year %	Population at 30 June '000	Change over previous year %
Adelaide	1 159.1	1.2	1 172.1	1.1
Outer Adelaide	131.4	2.1	134.1	2.0
Yorke and Lower North	45.9	1.0	46.4	1.0
Murray Lands	69.8	0.5	70.1	0.4
South East	64.9	0.6	65.4	0.8
Eyre	35.0	0.5	35.2	0.5
Northern	79.6	0.7	80.1	0.6
South Australia	1 585.8	1.1	1 603.4	1.1

(a) Estimates for 2007 are revised to align with new 2007 state and territory totals and estimates for 2008 are preliminary.

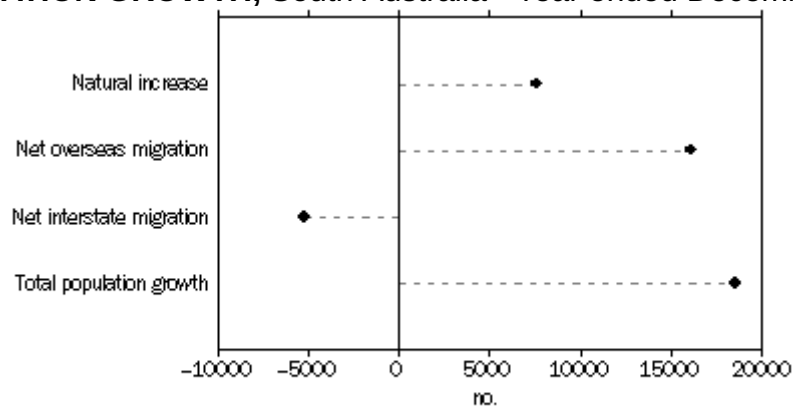
Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia 2007-08 (cat. no. 3218.0).

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

For the year ended 31 December 2008, South Australia recorded a natural increase (i.e. the net of births and deaths) of 7,613 persons. Net overseas migration provided a gain of 16,090 persons in the same period while net interstate migration realised a loss of 5,195 persons.

For the year ended 31 December 2008, Australia recorded a natural increase in population of 152,668 persons; net overseas migration resulted in a gain of 253,415 people.

POPULATION GROWTH, South Australia - Year ended December 2008



Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0)

Labour Force



LABOUR FORCE

CONTENTS

[Employed persons](#)

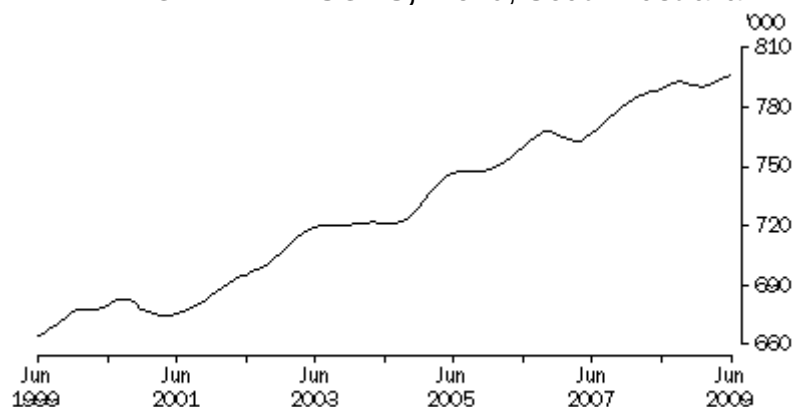
[Unemployment](#)

[Participation rate](#)

EMPLOYED PERSONS

In trend terms, the total number of persons employed in South Australia in June 2009 was 796,100, an increase of 1,400 from the number of persons employed in May 2009. The total number of persons employed in Australia in June 2009 was 10,772,500, a decrease of 4,800 on the number employed in May 2009 (10,777,300).

EMPLOYED PERSONS, Trend, South Australia



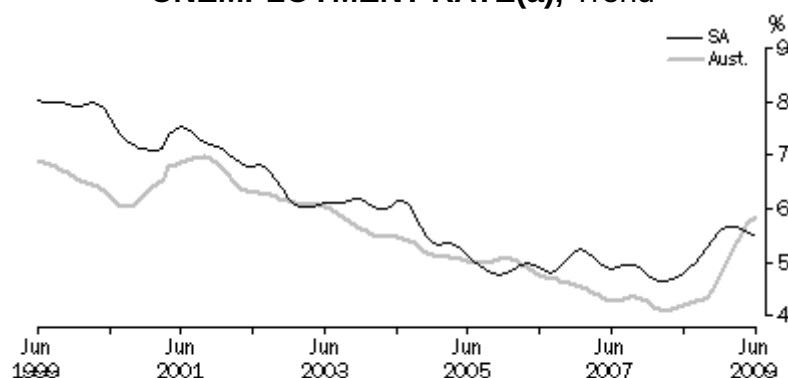
Source: Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

The number of males employed full-time in South Australia in June 2009 was 350,700 (in trend terms), a decrease from 352,400 in May 2009. The number of females employed full-time in South Australia increased from 186,500 in May 2009 to 187,300 in June 2009.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The trend estimate unemployment rate for South Australia fell slightly in June 2009 to 5.5% from 5.6% in May 2009. Australia's unemployment rate increased from 5.7% in May 2009 to 5.8% in June 2009.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE(a), Trend

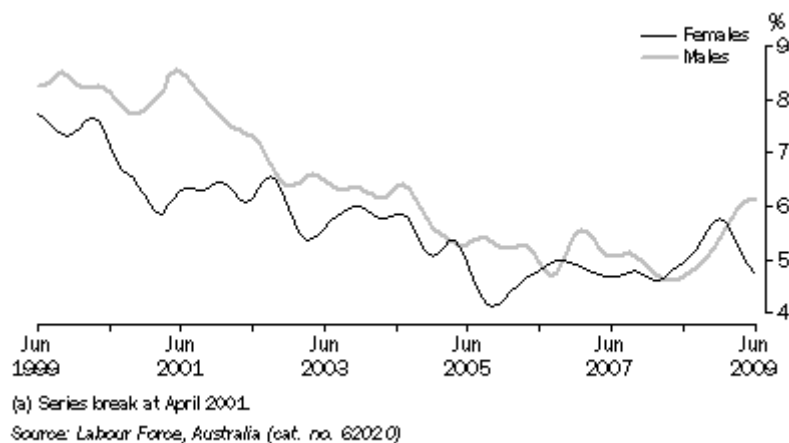


(a) Series break at April 2001.

Source: Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

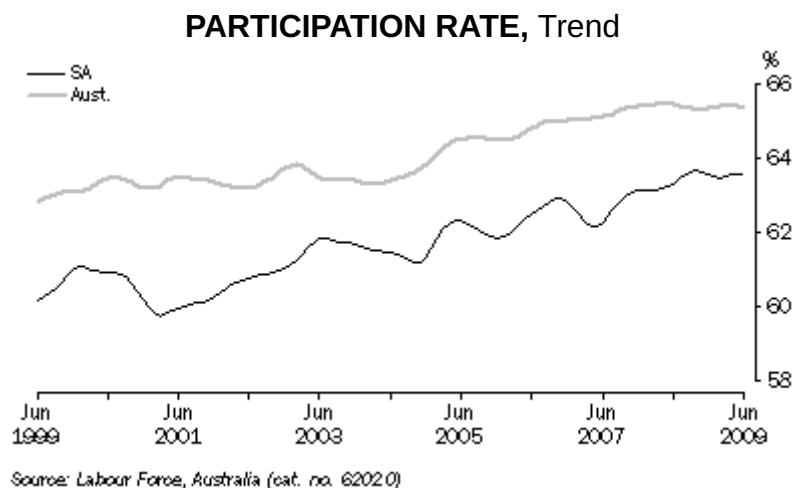
For South Australia, the trend unemployment rate for males remained steady at 6.1% in June 2009. The trend unemployment rate for females in South Australia decreased slightly from 4.9% in May 2009 to 4.7% in June 2009, the sixth consecutive monthly decline.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE(a), Trend, South Australia



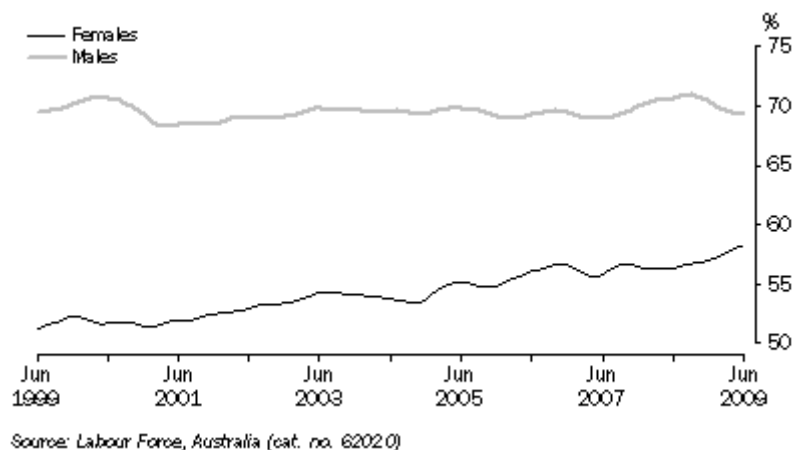
PARTICIPATION RATE

The trend estimate of the participation rate for South Australia remained steady at 63.6% in June 2009. Australia's trend participation rate remained steady for the sixth consecutive month at 65.4%.



For South Australia, the trend participation rate for males dropped slightly from 69.3% in May 2009 to 69.2% in June 2009. The Australian participation rate for males also dropped slightly in June 2009 to 72.1%. The participation rate for South Australian females increased from 58.1% in May 2009 to 58.2% in June 2009. The Australian female participation rate remained steady at 58.9% over the same period.

PARTICIPATION RATE, Trend, South Australia



Incomes



INCOMES

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

The trend estimate of average weekly (ordinary time) earnings for full-time adult persons in South Australia increased by 7.3% to \$1,116.50 in the 12 months to February 2009. Nationally, the corresponding increase was lower at 5.9% (up to \$1,183.10).

In the 12 months to February 2009, average weekly full-time earnings in South Australia for males increased by 6.8% to \$1,173.10. Nationally, male average weekly full-time earnings increased 6.5% to \$1,264.50. Female average weekly full-time earnings in South Australia increased by 7.6% to \$1,004.60 in the 12 months to February 2009, compared with a national increase of 5.2% to \$1,046.90.

FULL-TIME ORDINARY TIME EARNINGS, Trend, South Australia



For information on the wage price index, please refer to the '[Price Indexes](#)' topic.

State Accounts



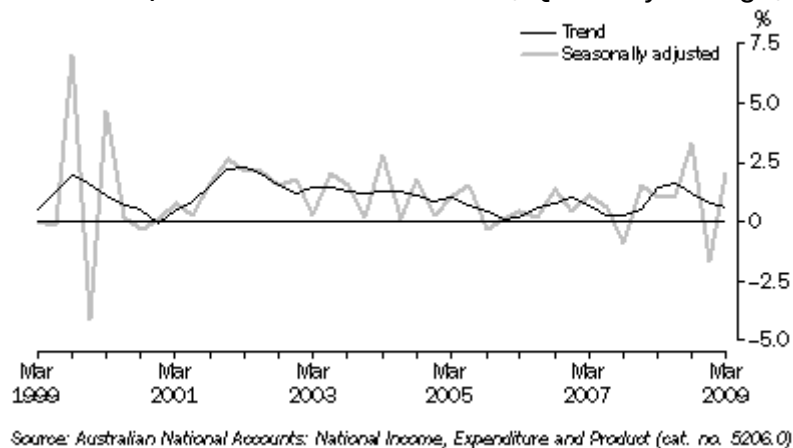
STATE ACCOUNTS

STATE ACCOUNTS

South Australia's March quarter 2009 State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms was \$19,144m, a 0.6% increase from the December quarter 2008. Australia's Domestic Final Demand decreased 0.3% in the March quarter 2009, to \$283,026m.

No other state or territory in Australia reported growth in State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms during the March quarter 2009. Of the other states and territories, the largest decreases for the quarter were reported in the Northern Territory (down 2.2%) and Queensland (down 1.4%).

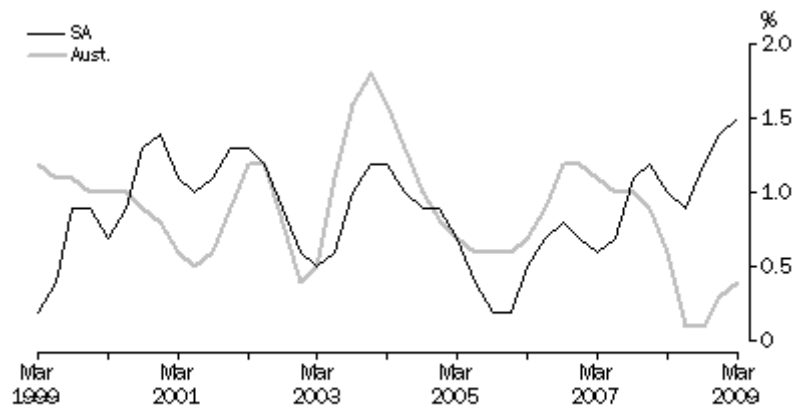
STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures, Quarterly change, South Australia



HOUSEHOLD FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE (HFCE)

In chain volume (trend) terms, South Australia's March quarter 2009 HFCE was \$11,378m (7.4% of the national total of \$153,634m). The value of HFCE for South Australia increased by 1.5% from the December quarter 2008 to the March quarter 2009. For Australia, HFCE increased by 0.4% from the December quarter 2008 to the March quarter 2009.

HFCE, Chain volume measures, Trend, Quarterly change

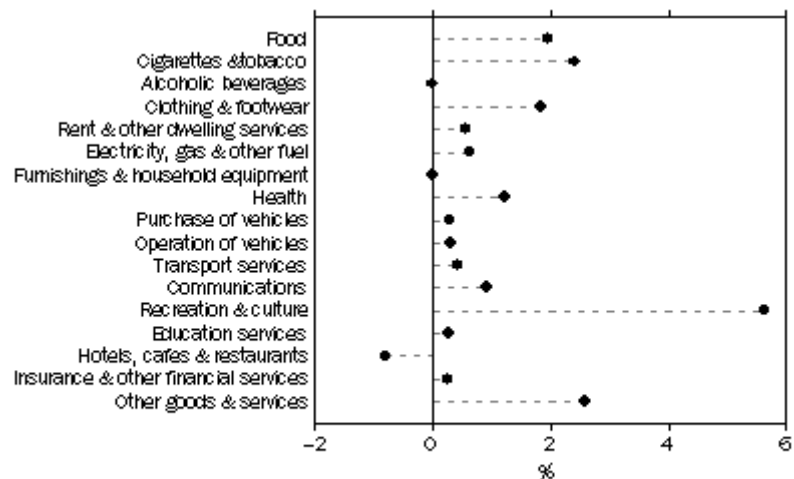


Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

The largest increases in expenditure in South Australia for the March quarter 2009 were for Recreation and culture (up 5.6% from the December quarter 2008), Other goods and services (up 2.6% from the December quarter 2008), Cigarettes and tobacco (up 2.4%) and Food (up 2.0%). Expenditure on Hotels, cafes and restaurants decreased by 0.8% over this period.

For Australia, the largest increase was for Electricity, gas and other fuel (up 1.0% from the December quarter 2008), followed by Recreation and culture (up 0.8% from the December quarter 2008), Food (up 0.7%), Clothing and footwear (up 0.7%), Health (0.7%), and Communication (up 0.7%). Expenditure on Purchase of vehicles decreased 2.4% from the December quarter 2008.

HFCE, Chain volume measures, Trend, Quarterly change, South Australia - March Quarter 2009



Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

Consumption



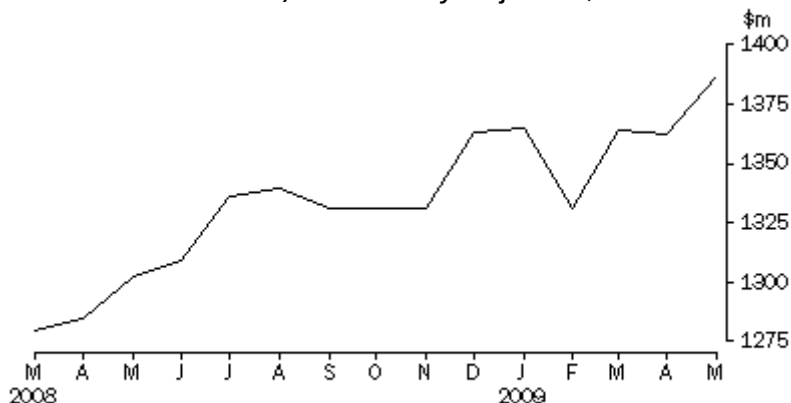
CONSUMPTION

RETAIL TRADE

The May 2009 seasonally adjusted estimate for South Australia's retail turnover was \$1,386.7m, while the estimate for Australia was \$19,549.8m. South Australia's contribution to total retail turnover in Australia increased slightly from 7.0% in April 2009 to 7.1% in May 2009.

From April 2009, the increase in retail turnover for South Australia across all retail industries was 1.8%, while turnover for Australia increased by 1.0%.

RETAIL TURNOVER, Seasonally adjusted, South Australia

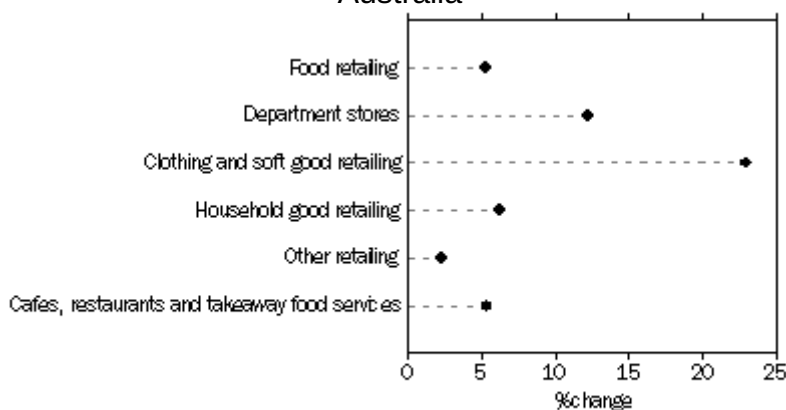


Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0)

Comparing May 2009 with May 2008, the South Australian industry groups with the largest percentage increases in retail turnover (in seasonally adjusted terms) were Clothing and soft good retailing, which rose by 22.9% to \$77.0m, and Department stores, which rose by 12.2% to \$134.9m.

No South Australian industry groups showed decreases in seasonally adjusted retail turnover when comparing May 2009 with May 2008.

RETAIL TURNOVER, Seasonally adjusted, Change from May 2008 to May 2009, South Australia

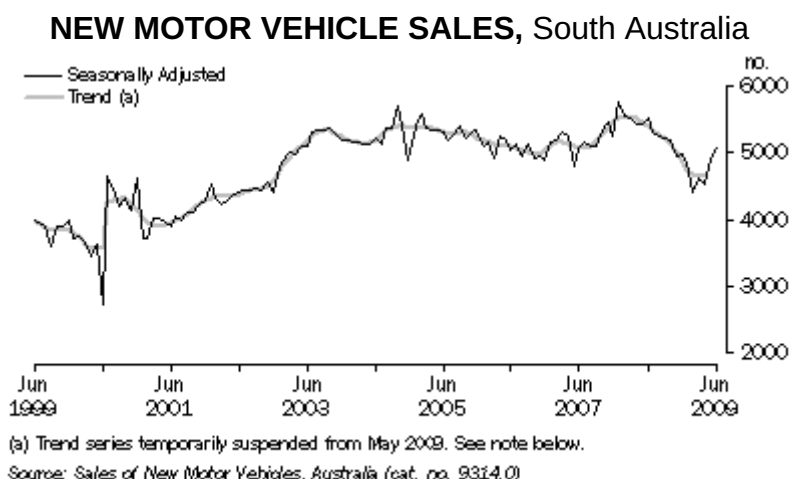


Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0)

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

In June 2009, 2,853 new passenger vehicles and 5,101 new vehicles in total (in seasonally adjusted terms) were sold in South Australia.

In Australia, 44,411 new passenger vehicles and 80,330 new vehicles in total (in seasonally adjusted terms) were sold in June 2009.



Note: Suspension of Trend Estimates

Following the Federal Government Budget in May 2009, the eligibility period for the Small Business and General Business Tax Break was extended to December 2009. The rebate level was also increased for small businesses, allowing eligible businesses to claim an increased tax deduction on the purchase of new motor vehicles.

The trend series attempts to measure the underlying behaviour in new motor vehicle sales. In the short term, this measurement may be significantly affected by unusual influences in the original and seasonally adjusted data, like those observed in May and June 2009. If the trend estimates in the publication were to be calculated without fully accounting for this irregular event, they would be likely to provide a misleading view of the underlying trend in new motor vehicle sales activity.

The new motor vehicle sales trend series has therefore been suspended from May 2009. The trend series will be reintroduced when more certainty emerges in the underlying behaviour of new car sales.

Investment



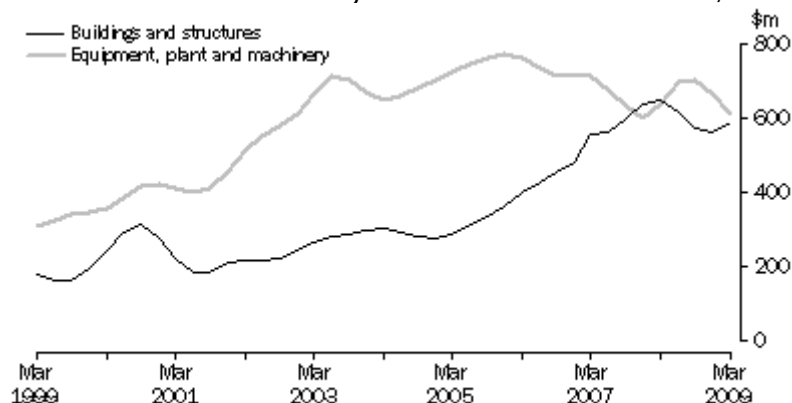
INVESTMENT

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Between the December 2008 and March 2009 quarters, the South Australian chain volume (trend) estimate of private new capital expenditure decreased by 2.3% to \$1,201m. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery decreased by \$54m (or 8.1%) to \$612m, while expenditure on Buildings and structures increased by \$26m (or 4.6%) to \$589m.

Between the December 2008 and March 2009 quarters, private new capital expenditure for Australia decreased by 0.7% to \$23,932m. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery decreased by 5.3%, while Buildings and structures expenditure increased by 4.4% over this period.

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Chain volume measures, Trend, South Australia



Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (cat. no. 5625.0)

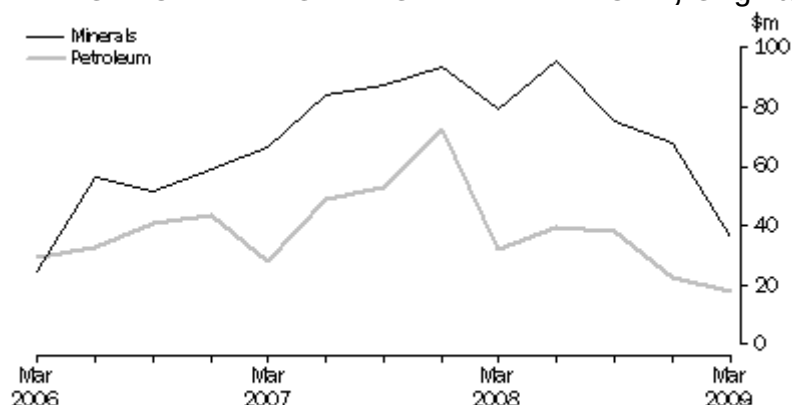
MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE

The value of mineral exploration expenditure in South Australia during the March quarter 2009 was \$36.0m (in original terms), down 47.1% from \$68.0m for the December quarter 2008. Over the same period, Australian expenditure on mineral exploration decreased by 37.8% from \$648.5m in the December quarter 2008 to \$403.5m in the March quarter 2009.

The main minerals sought in South Australia in the March quarter 2009 were uranium (\$10.7m exploration expenditure), copper (\$7.6m), and gold (\$6.0m).

Expenditure on petroleum exploration in South Australia in the March quarter 2009 was \$17.9m, down 19.6% from the December quarter 2008. Nationally, expenditure on petroleum exploration decreased 1.5% from \$1,013.4m in the December quarter 2008 to \$998.6m in the March quarter 2009.

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, Original, South Australia



Source: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia (cat. no. 8412.0)

Construction



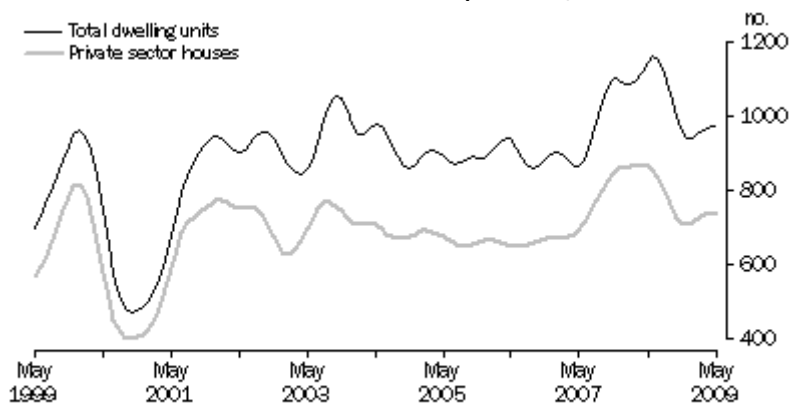
CONSTRUCTION

BUILDING APPROVALS

In May 2009, the total number of dwelling units approved in South Australia (in trend terms) declined 0.2% to 974. Nationally, the total number of dwelling units approved (in trend terms) rose 1.3% to 10,577, the fourth consecutive rise following the decline recorded throughout 2008.

The trend estimate for the number of private sector houses approved in South Australia in May 2009 remained steady at 740.

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, Trend, South Australia



In the year ended May 2009, the largest percentage increase in dwelling units approved in South Australia was recorded for the South East Statistical Division (34.5%). The Yorke and Lower North Statistical Division recorded the greatest percentage decrease in dwelling units approved in the year ended May 2009 (down 18.7%), following a 33.1% increase during the year ended May 2008.

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, by Statistical Division, Original, South Australia

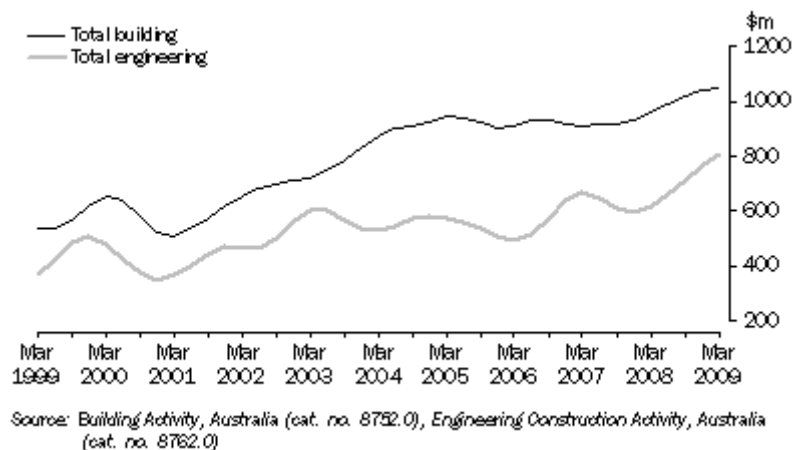
	Year ended May 2008		Year ended May 2009	
	Dwelling units no.	Change over previous year %	Dwelling units no.	Change over previous year %
Adelaide	8 898	23.3	8 582	-3.6
Outer Adelaide	1 614	4.9	1 620	0.4
Yorke and Lower North	636	33.1	517	-18.7
Murray Lands	462	-32.2	466	0.9
South East	388	5.7	522	34.5
Eyre	324	67.0	265	-18.2
Northern	465	16.0	445	-4.3
South Australia	12 787	17.5	12 417	-2.9

Source: Building Approvals, Australia - data available on request

CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE

In the March quarter 2009, the total value of building work done (in trend terms) in South Australia rose slightly to \$1,045.7m, an increase of 0.8% from the December quarter 2008. The total value of engineering work done in the March quarter 2009 was \$806.3m, an increase of 5.7% from the December quarter 2008 (\$762.9m).

VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE, Chain volume measures, Trend, South Australia



Price Indexes



PRICE INDEXES

CONTENTS

[Consumer price index](#)

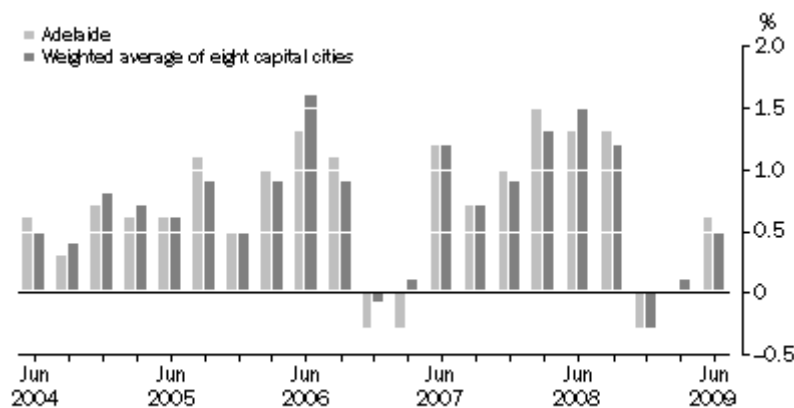
[Wage price index](#)

[House price index](#)

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Adelaide rose 0.6% during the June quarter 2009, while the weighted average of the eight capital cities increased by 0.5% during that quarter. Adelaide's CPI increased by 1.6% in the year ending June quarter 2009, compared with a 1.5% rise in the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

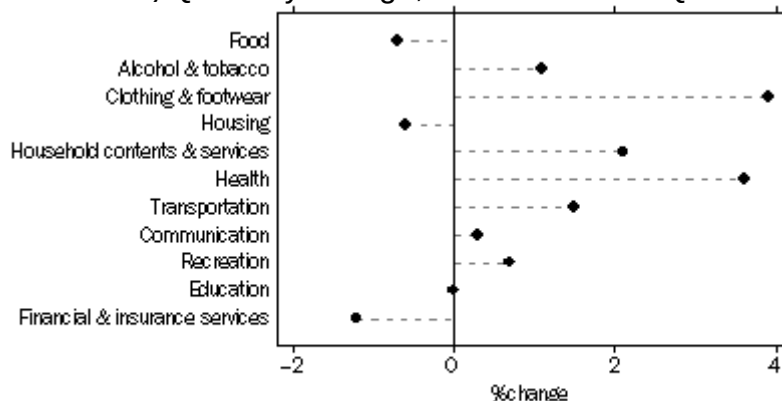
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL GROUPS, Quarterly change



Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0)

Adelaide's largest percentage increases in prices from the previous quarter were in the areas of Clothing and footwear (3.9%), Health (3.6%) and Household contents and services (2.1%). The largest decreases in prices from the previous quarter were for Financial and insurance services (-1.2%) and Food (-0.7%).

CPI GROUPS, Quarterly change, Adelaide - June Quarter 2009

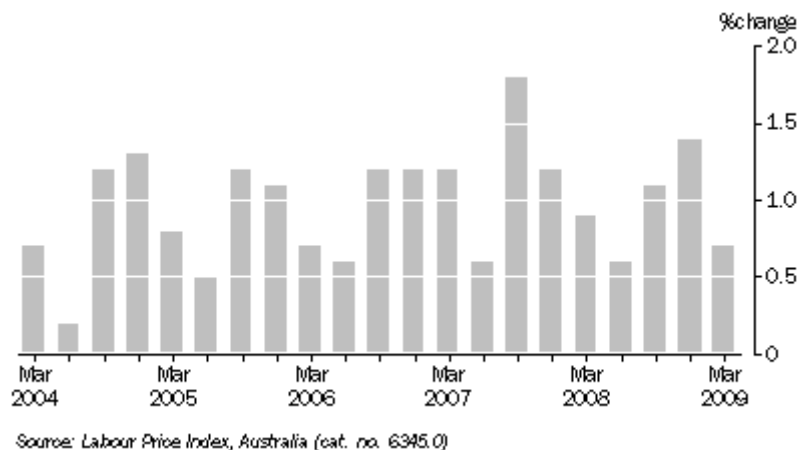


Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0)

WAGE PRICE INDEX

The wage price index for all employee jobs in South Australia increased by 0.7% (in original terms) from the December quarter 2008 to the March quarter 2009. This was the same as the increase nationally (0.7%) over this period.

WAGE PRICE INDEX QUARTERLY CHANGES, Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses, Original, South Australia

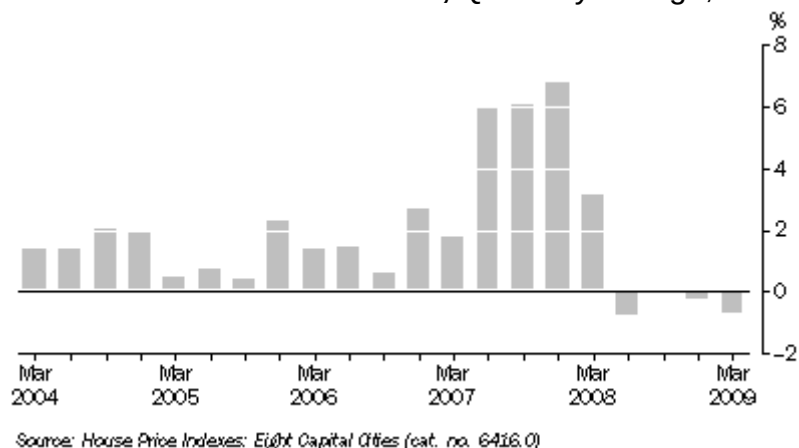


HOUSE PRICE INDEX

Preliminary estimates show that the price index for established houses for Adelaide (in original terms) decreased 0.8% in the March quarter 2009. The only cities in which the House Price Index increased between the December quarter 2008 and the March quarter 2009 were Darwin (2.2%), Canberra (0.5%) and Hobart (0.1%). The price index for the weighted average of the eight capital cities decreased by 2.2% over this period.

Over the year to the March quarter 2009, the preliminary estimates show the price index for established houses for Adelaide fell 1.9%, while the weighted average of the eight capital cities decreased 6.7%.

ESTABLISHED HOUSE PRICES, Quarterly change, Adelaide



Housing Finance

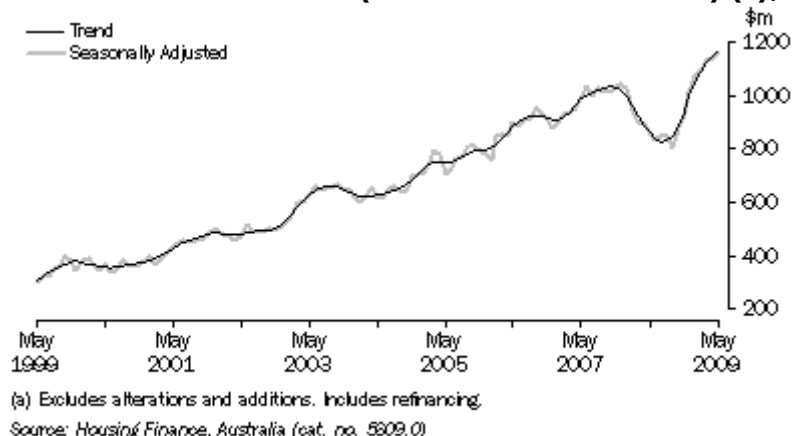


HOUSING FINANCE

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

In trend terms, the total value of housing finance commitments (owner occupation) in South Australia in May 2009 was \$1,169m, an increase of 1.5% from \$1,152m in April 2009. Nationally, the value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation grew by 3.0% from \$16,551m in April 2009 to \$17,042m in May 2009.

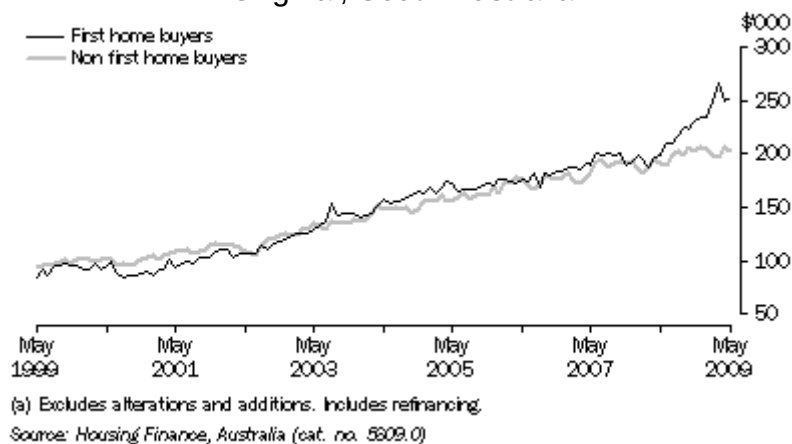
HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION) (a), South Australia



In May 2009, the average home loan size for owner occupied dwellings in South Australia was \$214,900, which was significantly lower than the average home loan size for Australia (\$266,900).

In May 2009, the average loan size for first home buyers in South Australia was \$253,200, which was 24.9% higher than the average loan size for non-first home buyers (\$202,700). Since May 2008, the average loan size for first home buyers has increased 27.0% while the average loan size for non-first home buyers has increased 5.8%.

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION) (a), Average loan size, Original, South Australia



For information on the house price index, please refer to the '[Price Indexes](#)' topic.

International Merchandise Trade



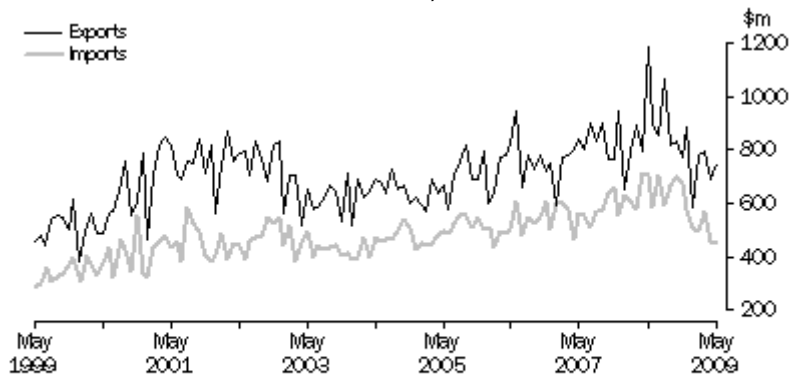
INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

South Australia's value of exports on a recorded trade basis in May 2009 was \$753m. This represents an increase of 9.5% from April 2009 (\$688m) and a decrease of 36.6% from the peak recorded in May 2008 (\$1,188m). The value of Australian merchandise exports for May 2009 was \$15,848m, a 10.9% decrease from the previous year (\$17,792m in May 2008).

The value of South Australian merchandise imports decreased 0.3% to \$454m in May 2009. This is 35.9% lower than the value of imports recorded in May 2008. The value of Australian merchandise imports for May 2009 was \$14,712m, a 19.2% decrease from May 2008 (\$18,205m).

VALUE OF INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE EXPORTS AND IMPORTS (a), on a recorded trade basis, South Australia



(a) Exports where the final stage of production or manufacture occurs in South Australia.

Source: International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia (cat. no. 5368.0)

Water

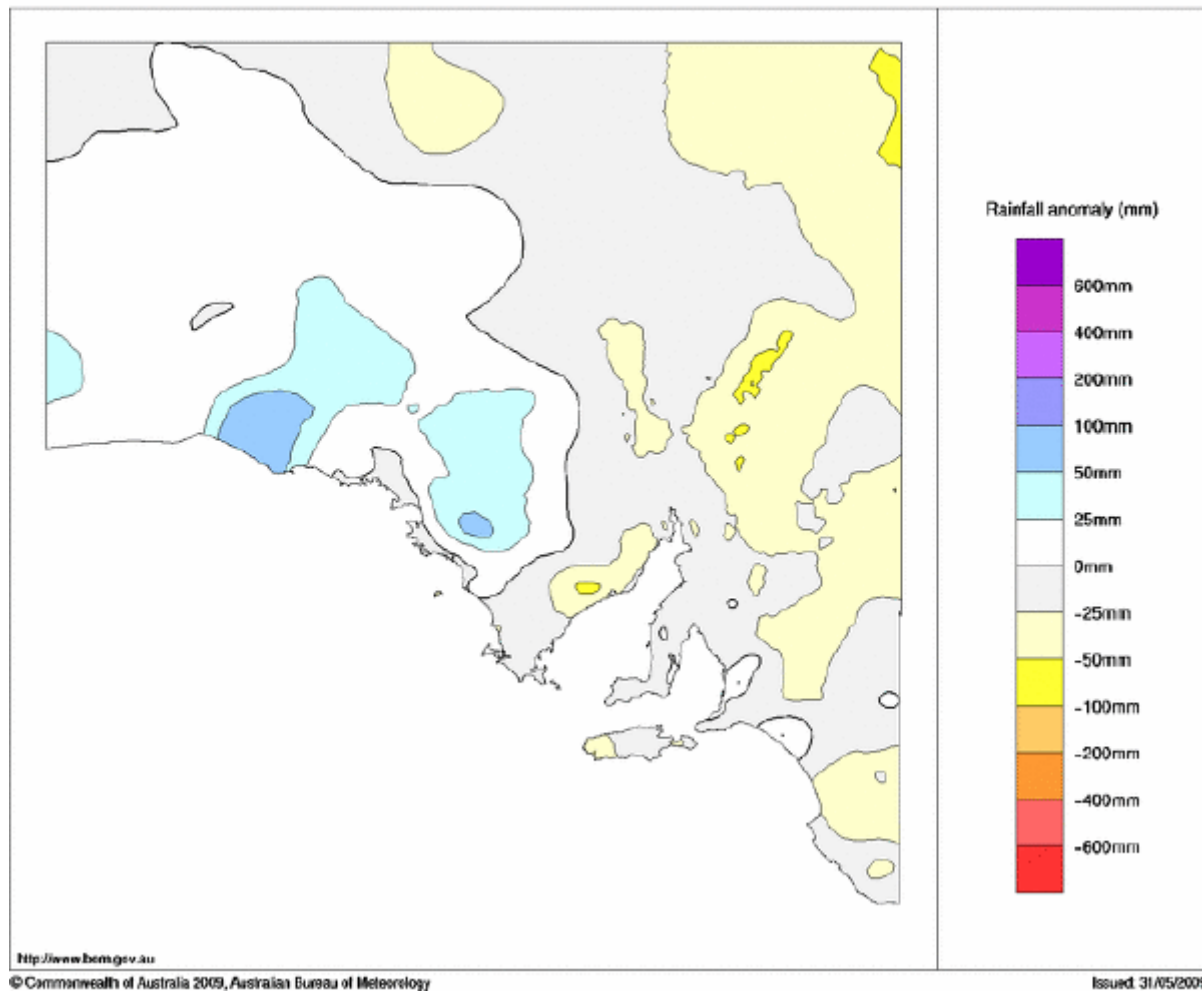


WATER

RAINFALL

South Australian rainfall totals were generally slightly below average across much of South Australia this autumn, typically 60 to 80% of average, apart from the Mount Lofty Ranges and adjacent areas, the far western agricultural areas, and the south-western pastoral areas, which saw rainfall above average. Areas of above average totals in the west were quite patchy due to the rainfall coming from the combination of several events that were not widespread, but were up to twice the average in some locations.

Rainfall Anomalies.

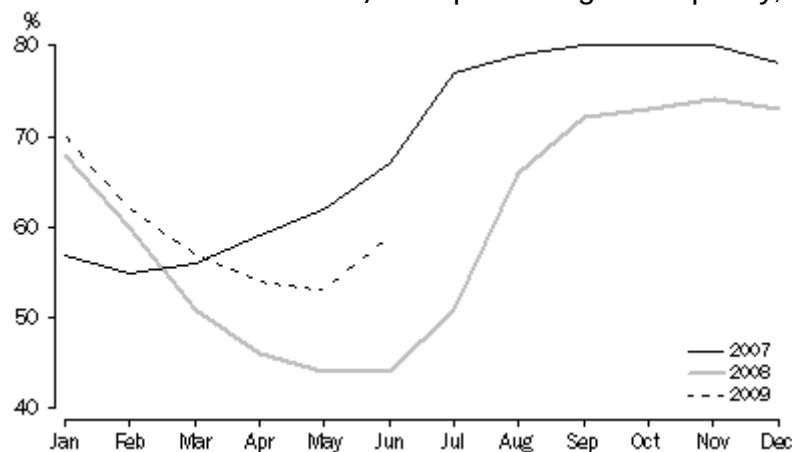


Source: 3-monthly rainfall anomalies for South Australia, Australian Bureau of Meteorology.

RESERVOIR LEVELS

The total water storage in Adelaide's reservoirs at the end of June 2009 was 59% of capacity, compared to 44% at the same time in 2008. Reservoir levels for the first six months of 2009 have been higher than for the corresponding periods in 2008.

TOTAL RESERVOIR STORAGE, As a percentage of capacity, Adelaide



About this Release

SA Stats provides an overview of the South Australian population and economy. The publication is updated on a monthly basis, with most releases also featuring an article that provides a South Australian focus on economic, social and environmental issues.

Explanatory Notes are not included in SA Stats in the form found in other Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publications. Readers are directed to the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications.

What are South Australians Studying? (Feature Article)

FEATURE ARTICLE: WHAT ARE SOUTH AUSTRALIANS STUDYING?

INTRODUCTION

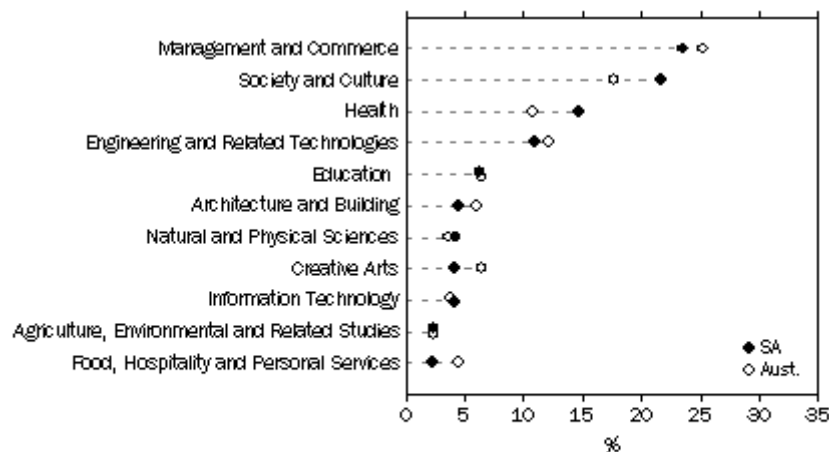
Education is an investment in personal capital and development. Having a qualification can equip individuals with the knowledge, skills and information that will assist them in entering the labour force. Higher levels of educational attainment are also associated with increased wages and contribute to the growth of Australia's economic position (ABS 2008). Data on fields of current study tell us about the areas in which people will be qualified in the future, and therefore help to assess the potential labour capital of South Australia. Those currently studying may acquire qualifications which will allow them to meet demand for skills and occupations in the labour market.

This article looks at the main fields of study of South Australians, using data from the Survey of Education and Work. The data and analysis below relate to persons aged 15-64 enrolled in a course of study for a qualification, excluding those studying year 12 or below.

MAIN FIELD OF CURRENT STUDY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

In 2008 the highest proportion of enrolments in South Australia, and indeed Australia, was in Management and Commerce. This field includes courses in accounting, business, marketing, finance and tourism. Nearly 24% of all enrolments had Management and Commerce as their main field of study, while 21.7% were enrolled in the Society and Culture field.

Main field of current study 2008 (a), South Australia

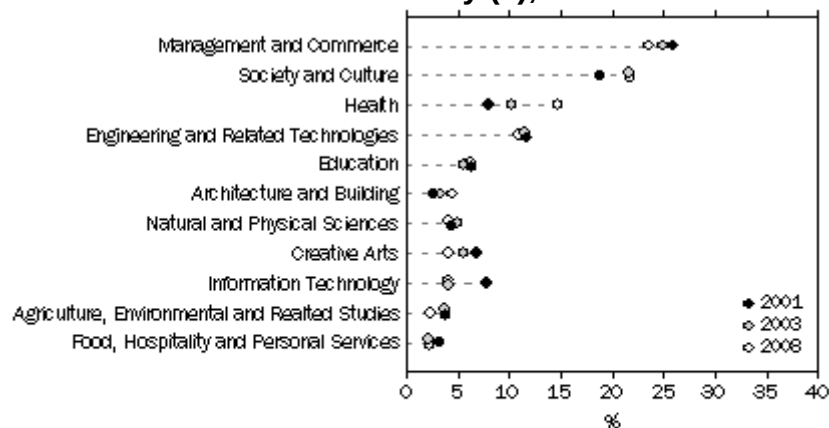


(a) Proportion of all enrolments in a course of study for a non-school qualification.
Source: Education and Work, Australia (cat. no. 6227.0), data available on request

Food, Hospitality and Personal Services was one of the least common fields of study in South Australia from 2001 to 2008. Only 2.2% of all enrolments had this as their main field of study in 2008. Some of the courses in this field qualify students to be hairdressers, bakers and cooks, all of which are occupations which have been assessed as being difficult for employers in South Australia to recruit suitably qualified staff (DEEWR 2009).

The most notable change in enrolment was in the field of Health. In 2001, 8.0% of South Australian students were enrolled in this field. This increased to 14.7% in 2008, making it the field of study with the greatest proportional increase over the seven year period. The health field is an area of known labour shortage in South Australia, with nurses, dentists, physiotherapists and other health occupations recognised as being in demand (DEEWR 2009).

Main field of current study (a), South Australia



(a) Proportion of all enrolments in a course of study for a non-school qualification.
Source: Education and Work, Australia (cat. no. 6227.0), data available on request

MAIN FIELD OF CURRENT STUDY BY SEX

The increase in the proportion of enrolments in the field of Health was mainly due to more females undertaking this field of study. In 2001, 10.7% of all female enrolments were in the field of Health, and by 2008 this had increased to 21.8%.

Consistently over the seven year period, a greater proportion of males than females were

enrolled in Engineering and Related Technologies. In 2001, 22.8% of males and 1.5% of females were enrolled in this field. There was a similar difference in 2008, with 23.0% of males and 0.4% of females enrolled in this field of current study in South Australia.

In South Australia since 2001, there has been a greater proportion of female students enrolled in Society and Culture than males. This field includes courses in social sciences, behavioural science, welfare, language, law and sport. In 2001, 26.5% of females were enrolled in this field of study in comparison to 10.5% of males. In 2008, the proportions were 26.3% and 16.4% respectively.

FIELDS OF CURRENT STUDY FOR A NON-SCHOOL QUALIFICATION, Proportion of enrolments, South Australia

	2001		2003		2008	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Management and Commerce	24.5	27.2	21.0	28.3	24.1	23.0
Society and Culture	10.5	26.5	13.5	28.4	16.4	26.3
Engineering and Related Technologies	22.8	**1.5	21.0	*3.4	23.0	**0.4
Health	*5.0	10.7	*6.8	13.3	6.6	21.8
Education	*4.6	*8.2	*4.1	*6.8	*2.8	9.2
All other fields	32.7	26.0	33.5	19.8	27.1	19.3

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

** estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

Source: **Education and Work, Australia** (cat. no. 6227.0), data available on request

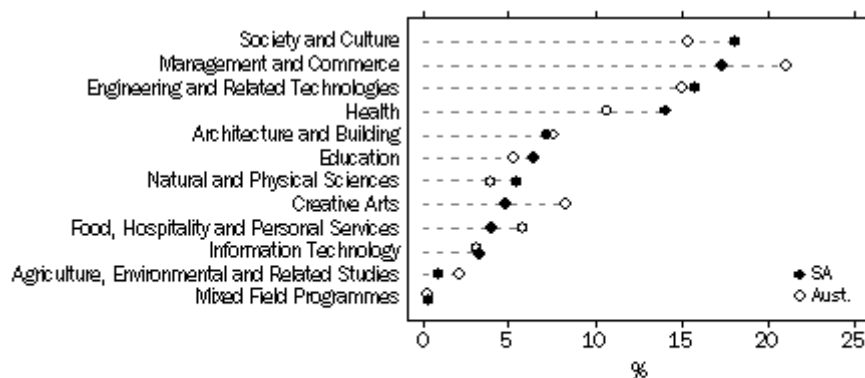
MAIN FIELD OF CURRENT STUDY BY AGE

15-24 year olds

Of those enrolled in a field of study in 2008, the three most common fields for South Australians aged 15-24 were Society and Culture (18.1%), Management and Commerce (17.4%) and Engineering and Related Technologies (15.8%). Nationally, the most common field for this age group was Management and Commerce (21.1%), followed by Society and Culture (15.4%).

In 2001, 8.4% of South Australian students aged 15-24 were enrolled in the field of Health. This proportion increased to 14.2% in 2008, making Health the only field of study with significant proportionate growth in South Australia for this age group.

Main field of current study 2008 (a), 15-24 year olds



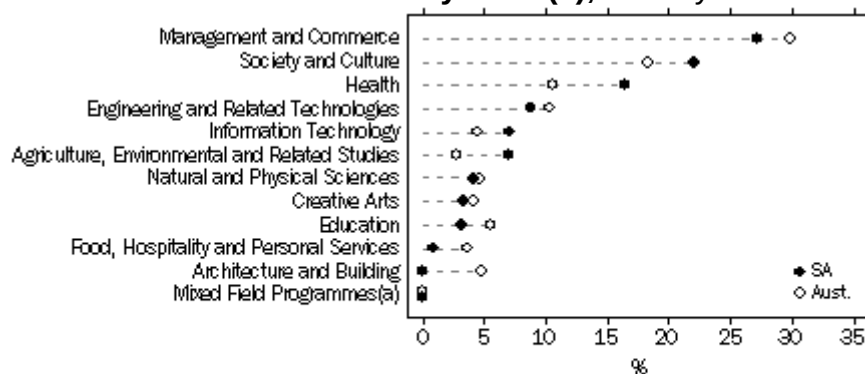
(a) Proportion of all enrolments in a course of study for a non-school qualification.
Source: Education and Work, Australia (cat. no. 6227.0), data available on request

25-34 year olds

Management and Commerce was the most common field of study for those aged 25-34 in 2008, with 27.2% of South Australian students in this age group enrolled in this field. Enrolment in Health among this age group has increased in South Australia over the seven year period. In 2001, 4.1% of South Australian students aged 25-34 were enrolled in this field of study. This grew in 2008 to 16.4%, making it the only field of study in South Australia with significant proportionate growth for those aged 25-34.

Nationally, since 2001 there has been a notable increase in enrolments for this age group in Engineering and Related Technologies. Enrolment increased from 7.5% of Australian 25-34 year old students in 2001 to 10.3% in 2008.

Main field of current study 2008 (a), 25-34 year olds

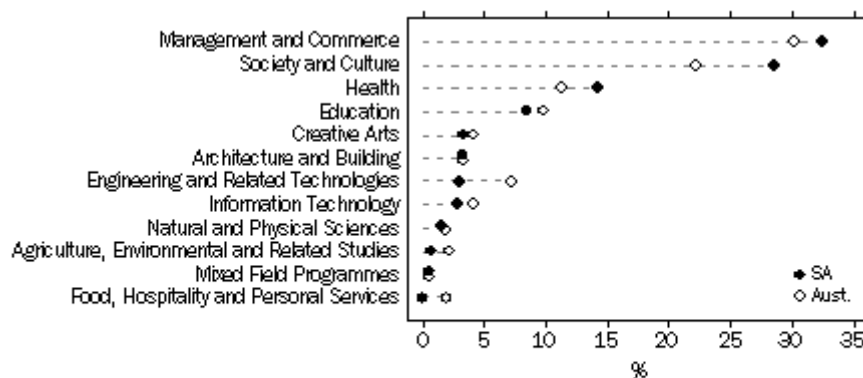


(a) Proportion of all enrolments in a course of study for a non-school qualification.
Source: Education and Work, Australia (cat. no. 6227.0), data available on request

35-64 year olds

In 2008, the most common field of study for South Australian students aged 35-64 was Management and Commerce (32.5% of enrolments), closely followed by Society and Culture (28.6%).

Main field of current study 2008 (a), 35-64 year olds



(a) Proportion of all enrolments in a course of study for a non-school qualification
 Source: Education and Work, Australia (cat. no. 6227.0), data available on request

SUMMARY

- Employers are currently having difficulty recruiting suitably qualified health professionals in South Australia such as nurses, dentists and physiotherapists. Importantly, there has been a significant increase in the proportion of enrolments to study in the field of Health which may help to alleviate the skills shortage in this area in future years.
- Engineers are also actively sought by employers in South Australia. While this continues to be one of the most common fields of study in South Australia, particularly for males, the proportion of students studying this as their main field has remained largely unchanged over the 2001-2008 period.
- Although employers are having difficulty recruiting suitably qualified hairdressers and cooks in South Australia, the proportion of enrolments to study Food, Hospitality and Personal Services continues to be one of the lowest in South Australia.

LIST OF REFERENCES

ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2001, Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), 2001, (cat. no. 1272.0), ABS, Canberra

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DEEWR (Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations) 2009, **State and Territory Skill Shortage List South Australia**, viewed 17 July 2009.